

Message Text

SECRET

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22

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 OPR-02 IO-13 A-01 SSO-00 DODE-00 INRE-00

CCO-00 SY-05 NSCE-00 /065 W
----- 055047

O 181038Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1195

S E C R E T BEIRUT 6370

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AEMR, LE

SUBJECT: HELICOPTER EVACUATION SITE

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE HELICOPTER OPTION IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR MY DEPARTURE FROM BEIRUT. IN THE EVENT THAT THIS OPTION IS SELECTED, YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE COMMENTS PREPARED BY DAO HUNT AND CONCURRED IN BY MY SECURITY DETAIL.

2. HELICOPTER PICKUP IS POSSIBLE FROM MANY POINTS ALONG PUBLIC BEACH BETWEEN KHALDE AND OUZAI. IN FACT, AT POINT OPPOSITE SOUTHERNMOST BIA RUNWAY EXTENSION THERE IS A BEACH FRONT, HARD-SURFACED ROAD WEST OF AND PARALLEL TO DUAL COASTAL HIGHWAY. HOWEVER, ROADS IN THIS AREA ARE OFTEN PARTIALLY COVERED BY DRIFTING SAND WHICH COULD BE INGESTED BY HELO ENGINES. IN OUR VIEW, MAJOR DRAWBACK TO PICKUP IN THIS AREA IS DIFFICULTY IN PREBRIEFING PILOT AND TROUBLE PILOT WOULD HAVE IN DETECTING PICKUP POINT AS HE CLOSES ON COAST. WE DO NOT HAVE ANY COLORED SMOKE GRENADES IN EMBASSY AND WOULD NOT WANT TO SO MARK PICKUP POINT IF WE DID.

3. WE BELIEVE OPERATION WOULD GO MUCH FASTER IF PICKUP WERE MADE FROM SOUTHERN END OF RENAISSANCE SPORTS FIELD (IDENTIFIED IN FLUID DRIVE OP ORDERS AS LZ 2003D - SPORTS FIELD AT NORTH END OF BAIN MILITAIRE; COORDINATES YC 285537). THIS PICKUP POINT IS LOCATED ON EXTREME NW TIP OF RAS BEIRUT JUST NORTH

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OFLIGHTHOUSE AND WOULD FACILITATE HELO PILOT BRIEFING AND

IDENTIFICATION FROM AIR. IT IS OPEN TO SEA ON WEST AND
NORTH, AND BUILDINGS AND HILL TO SOUTH AFFORD COVER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMERGENCY EVACUATION, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BEIRUT06370
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760276-0886
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760746/aaaabopo.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HELICOPTER EVACUATION SITE
TAGS: PFOR, AEMR, LE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006